

10/755,215

H0262

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, and 14-23 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 16, 18, 21, and 23 have been amended to cure lack of an antecedent basis or to improve the language. Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments, amendments, and the enclosed Rule 131 Declaration. Entry of the amendments and Rule 131 Declaration are respectfully requested since they place the application in condition for allowance, remove issues in the event of an appeal, and/or do not require further searching.

I. Objection of Claims 18 and 23

Claims 18 and 23 have been objected because of lack of an antecedent basis. Claims 18 and 23 have been amended herein to cure any informalities. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Although claims 16 and 21 have not been objected to or rejected, claims 16 and 21 have been amended in view of the Examiner's comments (to improve the grammar thereof and remove redundancies). The scope of claims 16 and 21 is not changed by the amendment.

II. Art Rejections

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-12 and 14-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Chey et al (U.S. Patent 6,928,380 B2, hereinafter "Chey"). Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Chey in view of Hedengren et al (U.S. Patent 6,180,867 B1).

All of the art rejections rely on Chey. Chey has an issue date of August 9, 2005, which is after the filing date of the subject application (January 12, 2004). The filing date of Chey is October 30, 2003. However, the subject application was conceived before October 30, 2003.

Accordingly, submitted herewith is a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131. The declaration demonstrates that the subject invention was conceived at a date prior to October 30, 2003, and that diligence was exerted from before October

10/755,215

H0262

30, 2003 until the constructive reduction to practice on January 12, 2004. The Rule 131 Declaration functions to remove Chey as citable art against the subject application.

Exhibit A accompanying the Rule 131 Declaration is an Invention Disclosure for the subject matter of the application. It is noted that specific dates have been redacted from the Invention Disclosure, but it is noted that all dates removed therefrom are before October 30, 2003. The Invention Disclosure describes the methods and features with words and drawings captured by the pending claims. It is specifically noted that, at the middle of the page 2, a temperature map of an integrated circuit can be obtained by providing a dense array of temperature sensing elements integrated onto the surface of fully processed integrated circuit. During operation of the integrated circuit, temperature gradients, which were caused by elevated temperatures of local regions with the greatest amount of Joule heating, can be detected and characterized by the array.

The Rule 131 Declaration also shows the back-and-forth flow information generally between the inventors and patent attorney associated with getting the application ready for filing. Since Chey is newly cited art in the Final Office Action, entry of the Rule 131 Declaration is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

The subject application is believed to be condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

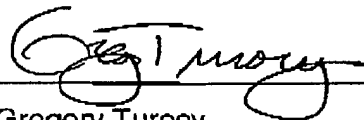
In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

10/755,215

H0262

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
AMIN & TUROCY, LLP



Gregory Turocy
Reg. No. 36,952

24TH Floor, National City Center
1900 E. 9TH Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Telephone (216) 696-8730
Facsimile (216) 696-8731